GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3988
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2000
FODDER FAMINE IN GUJARAT
DINSHA J. PATEL

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned `Gujarat Fodder Famine: Cattle Starve to Death` appearing in `Indian Express` dated March 25, 2000;

(b) if so, the matter reported therein alongwith the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) whether the Union Government proposed to provide any assistance to the State to meet the situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The Government of India has already delegated to the Government of Gujarat the powers to issue an order, under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 banning the movement of grasses/fodder out of the State.

(c): Central assistance already provided to the Government of Gujarat for feed and fodder development during 1999-2000 are

- Assistance to State for Feed and Fodder Development. Rs.137 lakhs
- Number of Central Minikits of Fodder Crops supplied to the State for the farmers . 18500.

In addition to above, an amount of Rs. 54.58 crores was approved by the National Calamity Relief Committee in the meeting held on 27.3.2000 and the said amount was released to the Government of Gujarat by the Ministry of Finance on 31.3.2000.This was in addition to the allocation of Rs.161.40 crores to the State under the Calamity Relief Fund for the Year 1999-2000.